

*Number 26 of 1956.*

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# **IRISH NATIONALITY AND CITIZENSHIP ACT, 1956.**

As amended by the Irish Nationality and Citizenship Act 1986 (No. 23 of 1986), the Irish Nationality and Citizenship Act 1994 (No. 9 of 1994) and the Irish Nationality and Citizenship Act 2001 (No. 15 of 2001)

*Unofficial restatement  
November 2002*

## **NOTE**

This restatement is presented for the convenience of those interested in Irish citizenship law. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the material contained in this document. No legal liability is accepted however for any errors that may remain. The original texts of the Acts as passed, from which the text in this document is derived, can be obtained from the Government Publications Sale Office, Molesworth St., Dublin 2, and can be viewed on [www.irlgov.ie/ag](http://www.irlgov.ie/ag) (for statutes up to and including 1998), and [www.irlgov.ie/oireachtas](http://www.irlgov.ie/oireachtas) (for more recent statutes).

# IRISH NATIONALITY AND CITIZENSHIP ACT, 1956.

AN ACT TO MAKE PROVISION FOR THE ACQUISITION AND LOSS OF IRISH NATIONALITY AND CITIZENSHIP.[17th July, 1956.]

BE IT ENACTED BY THE OIREACHTAS AS FOLLOWS:—

## PART I PRELIMINARY

### *Short title.*

1.—This Act may be cited as the Irish Nationality and Citizenship Act, 1956.

### *Definitions.*

2.—(1) In this Act—

“the Act of 1935” means the Irish Nationality and Citizenship Act, 1935 (No. 13 of 1935);

[“alien”]<sup>1</sup>

“consular office” includes a consulate-general, consulate or vice-consulate, whether in charge of a career or honorary consular officer;

“diplomatic officer” means an ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary, envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary, chargé d'affaires, counsellor or secretary of embassy or legation, or attaché;

“foreign aircraft” means an aircraft which is not an Irish aircraft;

“foreign ship” means a ship which is not an Irish ship.

[“full age”]<sup>2</sup>

[“Ireland”]<sup>3</sup>

“Irish citizen” means a citizen of Ireland;

“Irish aircraft” means an aircraft registered in the State;

“Irish ship” means a ship registered in the State or a ship which, if not registered in the State or under the law of any other country, is wholly owned by a person qualified to own a ship registered in the State or by persons all of whom are so qualified;

“the Minister” means the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform;<sup>4</sup>

“naturalised Irish citizen” means a person who acquires Irish citizenship by naturalisation, whether under this or any other enactment;

“non-national” means a person who is not an Irish citizen;<sup>5</sup>

“prescribed” means prescribed by regulations made by the Minister;

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<sup>1</sup> Defn. r. 15/2001 s. 2(a)(i)

<sup>2</sup> Defn. r. 15/2001 s. 2(a)(ii)

<sup>3</sup> Defn. r. 15/2001 s. 2(a)(iii)

<sup>4</sup> Defn. sub. 15/2001 s. 2(b)

<sup>5</sup> Defn. ins. 15/2001 s. 2(c)

“public service” when used in relation to the employment of a person, refers to employment in the service of the Government, whether or not in the civil service, or in the service of any public corporation or authority maintained wholly or partly out of public funds or in respect of which a Minister of State is responsible.

(2) In this Act a reference to the island of Ireland includes a reference to its islands and seas.

#### ***Regulations.***

**3.**—(1) The Minister may make regulations in relation to any matter or thing referred to this Act as prescribed or to be prescribed, but no such regulation shall be made in relation to the amount or collection of fees without consent of the Minister for Finance.

(2) Every regulation made by the Minister under the section shall be laid before each House of the Oireachtas as soon as may be after it is made, and if a resolution annulling the regulation is passed by either House within the next subsequent twenty-one days on which that has sat after the regulation is laid before it, the regulation shall be annulled accordingly, but without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done thereunder.

#### ***Expenses.***

**4.**—All expenses incurred by the Minister or by the Minister for External Affairs in carrying this Act into effect shall, to such extent as may be sanctioned by the Minister for Finance, be paid out of moneys provided by the Oireachtas.

#### ***Repeals and saving for existing citizenship.***

**5.**—(1) The Irish Nationality and Citizenship Act, 1935 (No. 13 of 1935), and the Irish Nationality and Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 1937 (No. 39 of 1937), are hereby repealed.

(2) Every person who, immediately before the passing of this Act, was a citizen of Ireland shall remain an Irish citizen, notwithstanding the foregoing repeals.

## **PART II CITIZENSHIP**

#### ***Citizenship by birth in the island of Ireland.***

**6.**<sup>6</sup>—(1) Every person born in the island of Ireland is entitled to be an Irish citizen.

(2) (a) Subject to subsections (4) and (5), a person born in the island of Ireland is an Irish citizen from birth if he or she does, or if not of full age has done on his or her behalf, any act which only an Irish citizen is entitled to do.

(b) The fact that a person so born has not done, or has not had done on his or her behalf, such an act shall not of itself give rise to a presumption that the person is not an Irish citizen or is a citizen of another country.

(3) A person born in the island of Ireland is an Irish citizen from birth if he or she is not entitled to citizenship of any other country.

(4) A person born in the island of Ireland—

(a) to a non-national who at the time of that person’s birth was entitled to diplomatic immunity within the State, or

(b) to a non-national on a foreign ship or in a foreign aircraft,

shall not be an Irish citizen unless, in the prescribed manner, that person declares, or if not of full age has declared on his or her behalf, that he or she is an Irish citizen; and such person shall be deemed to

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<sup>6</sup> Repl. 15/2001 s. 3(1): deemed to have come into operation on the 2nd day of December, 1999, being the day of the making of the declaration by the Government under Article 29.7.3 of the Constitution (15/2001 s. 9(3)).

be an Irish citizen from the date of birth or the date of coming into operation of this section, whichever is the later.

(5) A person born in the island of Ireland who has made a declaration of alienage under section 21 shall remain entitled to be an Irish citizen, but shall not be an Irish citizen unless, in the prescribed manner, that person declares that he or she is an Irish citizen; and such person shall be an Irish citizen from the date of the declaration.

***Citizenship by descent.***

7.<sup>7</sup>—(1) A person is an Irish citizen from birth if at the time of his or her birth either parent was an Irish citizen or would if alive have been an Irish citizen.

(2) The fact that the parent from whom a person derives citizenship had not at the time of the person's birth done an act referred to in section 6(2)(a) shall not of itself exclude a person from the operation of subsection (1).

(3) Subsection (1) shall not confer Irish citizenship on a person born outside the island of Ireland if the parent through whom he or she derives citizenship was also born outside the island of Ireland unless—

(a) that person's birth is registered under section 27, or

(b) the parent through whom that person derives citizenship was at the time of that person's birth abroad in the public service:

Provided that the Irish citizenship of a person who, after 1 July, 1986, is registered under section 27 shall commence only as on and from the date of such registration.

(4) Nothing in this section shall confer Irish citizenship on a person not an Irish citizen immediately before its coming into operation, nor deprive of Irish citizenship a person who immediately before its coming into operation was an Irish citizen.

***[Acquisition of citizenship on marriage.***

8.<sup>8</sup>—(1) *A person who is an alien at the date of that person's marriage to a person who is, or who after the marriage becomes, an Irish citizen (otherwise than by naturalisation or by virtue of this section or section 12) shall not become an Irish citizen merely by virtue of the marriage, but may do so by lodging, not earlier than three years from the date of the marriage or from the date on which the person last mentioned became an Irish citizen (otherwise than as aforesaid), whichever is the later, a declaration in the prescribed manner with the Minister, or with any Irish diplomatic mission or consular office, accepting Irish citizenship as post-nuptial citizenship: provided that—*

*(a) the marriage is subsisting at the date of lodgment of the declaration, and*

*(b) the couple are living together as husband and wife and the spouse who is an Irish citizen submits an affidavit to that effect when the declaration is being lodged.*

*(2) A person who lodges a declaration under subsection (1) shall be an Irish citizen from the date of lodgment.*

*(3) A person who, before the passing of this Act, married a person who was an Irish citizen (otherwise than by naturalisation) and became a naturalised Irish citizen shall be deemed to have*

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<sup>7</sup> Section repl. 15/2001 s. 3(1): deemed to have come into operation on the 2nd day of December, 1999, being the day of the making of the declaration by the Government under Article 29.7.3<sup>a</sup> of the Constitution (15/2001 s. 9(3)).

<sup>8</sup> Section repl. 23/1986 s. 3; r. by 15/2001 s. 4(1) with effect from 30 November 2002, but with the following saver (15/2001 s. 4(2)):

Section 8 ... shall continue to apply to a person being a non-national who, before [30 November 2002], marries a person who is, or who after the marriage becomes, an Irish citizen (otherwise than by naturalisation or by virtue of section 8 or 12 ...) and who makes a declaration under that section before the expiration of 3 years from [30 November 2002].

*lodged a declaration under subsection (1) on the passing of this Act and thereafter shall be an Irish citizen by virtue thereof and not by naturalisation.]*

***Citizenship of posthumous children.***

**9.**—A child born posthumously whose father was on the date of his death an Irish citizen shall acquire Irish citizenship under this Act on the same conditions as if his father were alive when he was born.

***Citizenship of foundlings.***

**10.**—Every deserted infant first found in the State shall, unless the contrary is proved, be deemed to have been born in Ireland.

***Citizenship of adopted children.***

**11.**—(1) Upon an adoption order being made, under the Adoption Act, 1952 (No. 25 of 1952), in a case in which the adopter or, where the adoption is by a married couple, either spouse is an Irish citizen, the adopted child, if not already an Irish citizen, shall be an Irish citizen.

(2) Section 25 of the Adoption Act, 1952, is hereby repealed.

***Grant of citizenship as token of honour.***

**12.**—(1) The President may grant Irish citizenship as a token of honour to a person or to the child or grandchild of a person who, in the opinion of the Government, has done signal honour or rendered distinguished service to the nation.

(2) A certificate of Irish citizenship shall be issued to the person to whom Irish citizenship is so granted and he shall, from the date of the certificate, be an Irish citizen.

(3) Notice of the issue of the certificate of citizenship shall be published as soon as may be in *Iris Oifigiúil*.

***Citizenship of persons born on ships and aircraft.***

**13.**—(1) A person born in an Irish ship or an Irish aircraft wherever it may be is deemed to be born in Ireland.

(2)<sup>9</sup>

### **PART III NATURALISATION**

***Certificates of naturalisation.***

**14.**—Irish citizenship may be conferred on a non-national<sup>10</sup> by means of a certificate of naturalisation granted by the Minister.

***Conditions for issue of certificate.***

**15**<sup>11</sup>.—(1) Upon receipt of an application for a certificate of naturalisation, the Minister may, in his absolute discretion, grant the application, if satisfied that the applicant—

(a) is of full age;

(b) is of good character;

(c) has had a period of one year's continuous residence in the State immediately before the date of the application and, during the eight years immediately preceding that period, has had a total residence in the State amounting to four years;

(d) intends in good faith to continue to reside in the State after naturalisation; and

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<sup>9</sup> Subs. r. 15/2001 s. 3(b) with effect from 5 June 2001.

<sup>10</sup>“Alien” repl. 15/201 s. 8(a).

<sup>11</sup>Section replaced by 23/1986 s. 4

(e) has made, either before a Justice of the District Court in open court or in such manner as the Minister, for special reasons, allows, a declaration in the prescribed manner, of fidelity to the nation and loyalty to the State.

(2) The conditions specified in paragraphs (a) to (e) of subsection (1) are referred to in this Act as conditions for naturalisation.

***Naturalisation of spouses of Irish citizens.***

**15A.**<sup>12</sup>—(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 15, the Minister may, in his or her absolute discretion, grant an application for a certificate of naturalisation to the non-national spouse of an Irish citizen if satisfied that the applicant—

- (a) is of full age,
- (b) is of good character,
- (c) is married to that citizen for a period of not less than 3 years,
- (d) is in a marriage recognised under the laws of the State as subsisting,
- (e) and that citizen are living together as husband and wife and that citizen submits to the Minister an affidavit in the prescribed form to that effect,
- (f) had immediately before the date of the application a period of one year's continuous residence in the island of Ireland,
- (g) had, during the 4 years immediately preceding that period, a total residence in the island of Ireland amounting to 2 years,
- (h) intends in good faith to continue to reside in the island of Ireland after naturalisation, and
- (i) has made, either before a judge of the District Court in open court or in such manner as the Minister, for special reasons, allows, a declaration in the prescribed manner, of fidelity to the nation and loyalty to the State.

(2) The Minister may, in his or her absolute discretion, waive the conditions at paragraph (c), (f), (g) or (h) of subsection (1) or any of them if satisfied that the applicant would suffer serious consequences in respect of his or her bodily integrity or liberty if not granted Irish citizenship.

***Power to dispense with conditions of naturalisation in certain cases.***

**16**<sup>13</sup>.—The Minister may, in his absolute discretion, grant an application for a certificate of naturalisation in the following cases, although the conditions for naturalisation (or any of them) are not complied with:

- (a) where the applicant is of Irish descent or Irish associations;
- (b) where the applicant is a parent or guardian acting on behalf of a minor of Irish descent or Irish associations;
- (c) where the applicant is a naturalised Irish citizen acting on behalf of a minor child of the applicant;
- [(d) where the applicant is married to a naturalised Irish citizen;*
- (e) where the applicant is married to a person who is an Irish citizen (otherwise than by naturalisation);]*<sup>14</sup>
- (f) where the applicant is or has been resident abroad in the public service;

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<sup>12</sup>Section ins. 15/2001 s. 5 with effect from 30 November 2002.

<sup>13</sup>Section repl. 23/1986 s. 5

<sup>14</sup>Paragraphs r. 15/2001 s.8(b).

- (g) where the applicant is a person who is a refugee within the meaning of the United Nations Convention relating to the Status of Refugees of the 28th day of July, 1951, and the Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees of the 31st day of January, 1967, or is a Stateless person within the meaning of the United Nations Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons of the 28th day of September, 1954.

***Calculation of period of residence in relation to application for naturalisation.***

**16A.**<sup>15</sup>—(1) When calculating a period of residence in the State for the purposes of an application for a certificate of naturalisation—

- (a) in the case of a non-national who is a person to whom the European Communities (Aliens) Regulations, 1977 (S.I. No. 393 of 1977), apply, no period shall be reckoned in relation to which the non-national was not the holder or subject of a residence permit or document granted under those Regulations or the European Communities (Right of Residence for Non-Economically Active Persons) Regulations, 1997 (S.I. No. 57 of 1997), and
- (b) in the case of any other non-national, no period shall be reckoned in respect of which the non-national—
- (i) was required to have the permission of the Minister to remain in the State under the Aliens Act, 1935, but did not have such permission, or
- (ii) had permission to remain under that Act or any other enactment for the purpose of—
- (I) study (whether or not such study necessitated the employment of the non-national during the whole or part of the period of study), or
- (II) seeking to be recognised as a refugee (within the meaning of the Refugee Act, 1996).

(2) This section does not apply to a person to whom the provisions of the Aliens Act, 1935, do not apply by virtue of an order made under section 10 of that Act.

(3) This section does not apply in the calculation of a period of residence in the State for the purposes of an application for a certificate of naturalisation made before [30 November 2002].

***Form of application.***

**17.**—(1) An application for a certificate of naturalisation shall—

- (a) be in the prescribed form, and
- (b) be accompanied by such evidence (including statutory declarations) to vouch the application as the Minister may require.

(2)<sup>16</sup> If any person, for the purposes of or in relation to an application for a certificate of naturalisation, gives or makes to the Minister any statement or information which is to his knowledge false or misleading in any material respect, he shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding five hundred pounds or, at the discretion of the court, to imprisonment for any term not exceeding six months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

***Effect and operation of certificate of naturalisation.***

**18.**—(1) Every person to whom a certificate of naturalisation is granted shall, from the date of issue and so long as the certificate remains unrevoked, be an Irish citizen.

(2) A certificate of naturalisation shall be in the prescribed form and be issued on payment of the prescribed fee, and notice of issue shall be published in the prescribed manner in *Iris Oifigiúil*.

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<sup>15</sup>Section ins. 15/2001 s. 6 with effect from 30 November 2002.

<sup>16</sup>Subsection replaced by 23/1986 s. 6

***Revocation of certificates of naturalisation.***

**19.**—(1) The Minister may revoke a certificate of naturalisation if he is satisfied—

- (a) that the issue of the certificate was procured by fraud, misrepresentation whether innocent or fraudulent, or concealment of material facts or circumstances, or
- (b) that the person to whom it was granted has, by any overt act, shown himself to have failed in his duty of fidelity to the nation and loyalty to the State, or
- (c) that (except in the case of a certificate of naturalisation which is issued to a person of Irish descent or associations) the person to whom it is granted has been ordinarily [*resident outside Ireland*] <sup>17</sup>[resident outside the State or, in the case of an application for a certificate of naturalisation granted under section 15A, resident outside the island of Ireland] (otherwise than in the public service) for a continuous period of seven years and without reasonable excuse has not during that period registered annually in the prescribed manner his name and a declaration of his intention to retain Irish citizenship with an Irish diplomatic mission or consular office or with the Minister, or
- (d) that the person to whom it is granted is also, under the law of a country at war with the State, a citizen of that country, or
- (e) that the person to whom it is granted has by any voluntary act other than marriage acquired another citizenship.

(2) Before revocation of a certificate of naturalisation the Minister shall give such notice as may be prescribed to the person to whom the certificate was granted of his intention to revoke the certificate, stating the grounds therefor and the right of that person to apply to the Minister for an inquiry as to the reasons for the revocation.

(3) On application being made in the prescribed manner for an inquiry under subsection (2) the Minister shall refer the case to a Committee of Inquiry appointed by the Minister consisting of a chairman having judicial experience and such other persons as the Minister may think fit, and the Committee shall report their findings to the Minister.

(4) Where there is entered in a certificate of naturalisation granted to a person under the Act of 1935 the name of any child of that person, such entry shall for the purposes of this Act be deemed to be a certificate of naturalisation under the Act of 1935.

(5) A certificate of naturalisation granted or deemed under subsection (4) to have been granted under the Act of 1935 may be revoked in accordance with the provisions of this section and, upon such revocation, the person concerned shall cease to be an Irish citizen.

(6) Notice of the revocation of a certificate of naturalisation shall be published in *Iris Oifigiúil*.

***Acquisition of citizenship by one of married couple.***

**20.**—Acquisition of Irish citizenship by a person shall not of itself confer Irish citizenship on his or her spouse.

**PART IV  
LOSS OF CITIZENSHIP**

***Renunciation of citizenship.***

**21.**—(1)<sup>18</sup> If an Irish citizen of full age is or is about to become a citizen of another country and for that reason desires to renounce citizenship, he or she may do so, if ordinarily resident outside the State, by lodging with the Minister a declaration of alienage in the prescribed manner, and, upon lodgment of the declaration or, if not then a citizen of that country, upon becoming such, shall cease to be an Irish citizen.

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<sup>17</sup>Words in italics replaced by words in square brackets with effect from 30 November 2002: 15/2001 s. 8(c).

<sup>18</sup>Subsection replaced by 23/1986 s. 7

(2) An Irish citizen may not, except with the consent of the Minister, renounce Irish citizenship under this section during a time of war as defined in Article 28.3.3<sup>0</sup> of the Constitution.

***Non-effect of spouse's death or loss of citizenship on other spouse or children.***

**22.**—(1) The death of an Irish citizen shall not affect the citizenship of his or her surviving spouse or children.

(2) Loss of Irish citizenship by a person shall not of itself affect the citizenship of his or her spouse or children.

***Marriage not to effect loss of citizenship.***

**23.**<sup>19</sup>—A person who marries non-national shall not, merely by virtue of the marriage, cease to be an Irish citizen, whether or not he or she acquires the nationality of the non-national.

***Loss of citizenship by operation of foreign law under section 21 of Act of 1935.***

**24.**—No person shall be deemed ever to have lost Irish citizenship under section 21 of the Act of 1935 merely by operation of the law of another country whereby citizenship of that country is conferred on that person without any voluntary act on his part.

***Preservation of obligations on cesser of citizenship.***

**25.**—If a person ceases to be an Irish citizen the cesser of his citizenship shall not of itself operate to discharge any obligation, duty or liability undertaken, imposed or incurred before the cesser.

**PART V  
GENERAL**

***Mutual citizenship rights.***

**26.**—(1) Where the Government are satisfied that under the law of another country (whether by virtue of a convention between that country and the State or otherwise) Irish citizens enjoy in that country some or all of the rights and privileges of a citizen of that country, the Government may by order (in this section referred to as a citizenship rights order) declare that citizens of that country shall enjoy in the State similar citizenship rights and privileges to those enjoyed by Irish citizens in that country, but subject to such conditions (if any) as the Government may think fit to impose.

(2) Every citizenship rights order shall have effect in accordance with its terms.

(3) The Government may by order revoke or amend an order under this section.

(4) The Government shall not, by a citizenship rights order, confer upon a citizen of another country any right or privilege reserved by law to any class or group of persons, howsoever defined, of which he is, at the relevant time, not a member.

(5) Every order under this section shall be laid before each House of the Oireachtas as soon as may be after it is made, and if a resolution annulling the order is passed by either House within the next twenty-one days after that House has sat after the order was laid before it, the order shall be annulled accordingly but without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done thereunder.

(6) Every order made before the passing of this Act under section 23 of the Act of 1935 conferring citizenship rights on the citizens of another country shall continue in full force and effect until revoked or amended by an order made under this section.

***Registry of births abroad.***

**27.**—(1)<sup>20</sup> A foreign births entry book shall be kept at such Irish diplomatic missions and consular offices as the Minister for Foreign Affairs may, from time to time, specify in regulations.

(1A) A foreign births register shall be kept in the Department of Foreign Affairs in Dublin.

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<sup>19</sup>Am. 15/2001 s. 8(d).

<sup>20</sup>Subss. (1) and (1A) repl. 15/2002 s. 7(a).

(2)<sup>21</sup> The birth outside the island of Ireland of a person deriving citizenship through a father or mother so born may be registered, in accordance with the foreign births regulations, either in any foreign births entry book or in the foreign births register, at the option of the person registering the birth.

(3) Particulars of all births entered in a foreign births entry book shall be transmitted, from time to time, in accordance with the foreign births regulations, to the Department of Foreign Affairs<sup>22</sup> for entry in the foreign births register.

(4) A document purporting to be a copy of an entry in a foreign births entry book or in the foreign births register, and to be duly authenticated, shall be admitted in evidence without proof of the signature or seal whereby it is authenticated or of the authority of the person whose signature or seal appears thereon and shall, until the contrary is proved, be deemed a true copy of the entry and accepted as proof of the fact and terms thereof.

(5)<sup>23</sup> The Minister for Foreign Affairs may make regulations (in this Act referred to as the foreign births regulations) respecting the form and manner of keeping of foreign births entry books and the foreign births register, the registration of births therein, the amendment or deletion of incorrect entries therein, the transmission of particulars of births from foreign births entry books for entry in the foreign births register, the inspection of the books and register by the public, the furnishing of extracts therefrom, and (with the consent of the Minister for Finance) the fees (if any) to be charged for registration of births in the books and register, for the inspection thereof and for furnishing extracts therefrom.

(6)<sup>24</sup> Where the foreign births regulations provide for the amendment or deletion of incorrect entries made in any foreign births entry book or the foreign births register, the regulations may, at the discretion of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, also provide for notice to be given and the time in which notice shall be given, before any such proposed amendment or deletion is made, to any person (whose whereabouts is known and can readily be found) affected by the proposal and the manner, the time in which and to whom representations may be made in respect of the proposal by any such person.

#### ***Certificates of nationality.***

**28.**—(1)<sup>25</sup> Any person who claims to be an Irish citizen, other than a naturalised Irish citizen, may apply to the Minister or, if resident outside the island of Ireland, to any Irish diplomatic officer or consular officer for a certificate, of nationality stating that the applicant is, at the date of the certificate, an Irish citizen; and the Minister or officer, if satisfied that—

(a) the applicant is an Irish citizen, and

(b) the issue of the certificate is necessary in all the circumstances of the case,

may issue a certificate of nationality to him accordingly.

(2) A document purporting to be a certificate of nationality, duly authenticated by the seal of the Minister or of a diplomatic or consular officer shall, until the contrary is proved, be evidence that the person named therein was, at the date thereof, an Irish citizen.

#### ***Extension to all citizens of statutory rights conferred on Persons born in Ireland.***

**29.**<sup>26</sup>—An Irish citizen, wherever born, shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges conferred by the terms of any enactment on persons born in the State.

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<sup>21</sup> Am. 15/2002 s. 7(b).

<sup>22</sup> Dept. title am. 15/2002 s. 7(c).

<sup>23</sup> Subs. am. 15/2002 s. 7(d) and (e).

<sup>24</sup> Subs. ins. 15/2002 s. 7(f).

<sup>25</sup> Am. 15/2002 s. 7(e).

<sup>26</sup> Am. 15/2002 s. 7(f).

***Fees payable on declaration.***

**30.**—Whenever any person is by this Act required or empowered to make a declaration for the purposes of this Act, regulations made under this Act may require that such person shall pay, on the making of such declaration, such fee as may be prescribed.

***Collection and disposal of fees.***

**31.**—(1) All fees payable under this Act shall be collected and taken in such manner as the Minister for Finance shall, from time to time, direct and shall be paid into or disposed of for the benefit of the Exchequer in accordance with the directions of the said Minister.

(2) The Public Offices Fees Act, 1879, shall not apply in respect of any fees payable under this Act.

**Provisions of 23/1986**

***Transitional provision.***

8.—For the period of six months commencing on the passing of this Act, any person who but for this Act could become an Irish citizen may continue to do so.

***Short title, collective citation and construction.***

9.—(1) This Act may be cited as the Irish Nationality and Citizenship Act, 1986.

(2) The Act of 1956 and this Act may be cited together as the Irish Nationality and Citizenship Acts, 1956 and 1986.

(3) The Act of 1956 and this Act shall be construed together as one Act.

**Number 9 of 1994.**

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**No. 9/1994: IRISH NATIONALITY AND CITIZENSHIP ACT, 1994.**

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AN ACT TO AMEND AND EXTEND THE IRISH NATIONALITY AND CITIZENSHIP ACTS, 1956 AND 1986. [1st May, 1994]

BE IT ENACTED BY THE OIREACHTAS AS FOLLOWS:

***Definitions.***

**1.**—In this Act—

“the Act of 1956” means the Irish Nationality and Citizenship Act, 1956;

“the Act of 1986” means the Irish Nationality and Citizenship Act, 1986;

“the transitional period” means the period of 6 months referred to in section 8 of the Act of 1986 which commenced on the 1st day of July, 1986, and ended on the 31st day of December, 1986.

***Registration of births outside Ireland.***

**2.**—(1) Where a person, during the transitional period, lodged an application for the registration under section 27 of the Act of 1956 of a birth outside Ireland and the birth would have been registrable under the Irish Nationality and Citizenship Acts, 1956 and 1986, during the transitional period but was not so registered, then—

(a) where the birth has not been registered before the passing of this Act, that birth may be registered under the said section 27, or

(b) where the birth has been registered after the transitional period but before the passing of this Act, that birth may be re-registered under the said section 27.

(2) A birth registered or re-registered under section 27 of the Act of 1956 by virtue of subsection (1) of this section shall be deemed to have been registered on the 1st day of July, 1986.

(3) A birth registered under section 27 of the Act of 1956 during the transitional period shall be deemed to have been registered on the 1st day of July, 1986.

***Short title, collective citation and construction.***

**3.—**(1) This Act may be cited as the Irish Nationality and Citizenship Act, 1994.

(2) The Irish Nationality and Citizenship Acts, 1956 and 1986, and this Act may be cited together as the Irish Nationality and Citizenship Acts, 1956 to 1994, and shall be construed together as one.